

Appl. No. 10/696,151
Amdt. dated April 18, 2005
Reply to Advisory Office action of March 30, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The undersigned attorney acknowledges the telephone interview with Examiner Landau on April 18, 2005. At that time the undersigned attorney agreed to cancel claims 12-14, 19, 20 and 23-26.

Status

This is in response to the Advisory Office action dated 03/30/2005.

Claims 1-7, 9, 10, 12-14, and 19-26 are pending.

Claims 1-7, 9, 12-14, 19-21, and 23-26 are rejected.

Claims 10 and 22 are objected to.

Claim Objections

Claims 4-7, 19, and 20 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Regarding claims 4-7, 19, and 20, the limitation "a strap" is objected to since claims 1 and 12 already define a strap. In claims 4, 6, and 7, "a strap" should be changed to read "the strap is". In claims 5, 19, and 20, the limitation "a strap" should be changed to read "the strap".

Applicant has made the requested changes except claims 19 and 20 which have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 10 and 22 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Applicant has amended claims 10 and 22 to be in independent form, and has canceled claim 1. Claims 2-7 and 21 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 10. Note that claim 21 previously depended upon claim 1 and now depends upon claim 10.

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Claims 23 and 24 have been amended to depend from allowable claim 22.

Rejected claims 12 -14, 19-20, and 23-26 have been cancelled.

In light of the amendments made herein, the rejections under 35 USC §102 and 35 USC § 103 are moot.


Claim Count

There remain 11 total claims, 2 of which are in independent form.
No fee is required.

Conclusion

The claims should be allowed.
No new matter is entered by this amendment.
Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,


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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. 703-872-9306) on April 18, 2005.

Name of Person Signing Certificate : Howard M. Cohn

Signature

: 

Date of Person signing : April 18, 2005

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